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Jeffrey M. Nelson Chief Counsel & Director of Legal Services

January 30, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re:

Power Purchase Agreement between Duke Energy Progress, LLC and Cherry Blossom

Solar, LLC

Docket No. 2017-33-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

By this letter, the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") hereby notifies the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") that ORS has reviewed the request submitted by Duke Energy Progress, LLC ("DEP" or the "Company") in the above referenced Docket. The Company requests the Commission accept for filing a Power Purchase Agreement ("Amendment") between the Company and Cherry Blossom Solar, LLC. DEP also requests the Commission grant confidential treatment to certain provisions of the Amendment.

ORS, having had the opportunity to review an unredacted version of the PPA, has no objection to the Agreement itself. However, as in Dockets 2016-41-E and 2016-42-E, ORS objects to the Company's request for confidential treatment of certain provisions of the Amendment.

As in the previous cases, ORS asserts that the redacted information is not entitled to confidential treatment. ORS believes that the public, and particularly the customers of DEP who pay for avoided costs through their rates, of which purchased power is a component, are entitled to know the specific terms and conditions of these PPA's. ORS believes that the publics right to know outweighs the concerns for confidentiality expressed by the Company. It is impossible for

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any customer of DEP to determine if the Company has negotiated in their best interests when the terms and costs of these Agreements is not available to them.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns regarding the matter above.

Sincerely,

ffrey M. Nelson

cc: Rebecca J. Dulin, Esquire (via E-Mail)
Joseph Melchers, Esquire (via E-Mail)